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MEETINGS OF ORGANS AND PROGRAMMES NOT FUNDED FROM THE REGULAR BUDGET OF THE UNITED NATIONS

1. At its 1986 substantive session, the Committee on Conferences requested the Secretariat to prepare a comparative study of the conference-servicing resources and the determination of the related costs thereof that were provided to United Nations organizations and programmes not funded by the regular budget of the Organization, such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). While these organs/programmes themselves are not funded from the regular budget of the United Nations, their governing bodies are entitled to receive conference services and do so from resources of section 32 of the regular budget.

2. Following its review of the information provided by the Secretariat in document A/AC.172/121 at its 1987 substantive session, the Committee noted that many of the meetings of those organizations took place at very busy times of the year and considered it possible that those meetings had an impact on the programme of meetings of subsidiary bodies that were funded from the regular budget of the United Nations.

3. At the 6th meeting of the Fifth Committee at the forty-third session of the General Assembly, on 11 October 1988, the Secretariat was requested to provide information to the Committee including a description of the conference services provided to those organs and programmes and statements of the costs involved in providing services. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences indicated that the question could be included in the agenda of the Committee on Conferences. The present report is submitted

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* A/AC.172/143/Add.1/Rev.1.

pursuant to that request and concentrates on the technical and practical facets of providing conference services to organs and programmes not funded from the regular budget.

4. The meetings pattern of the four governing bodies between 1988 and 1990 is shown below:

A. 1988

	Body	Meetings
1.	UNDP Governing Council (New York and Geneva)	Organizational and special meetings Dates: 16-18 February Thirty-fifth session, including Budgetary and Finance Committee and Drafting Group Dates: 13-30 June
2.	UNICEF Executive Board	Executive Board, including Committee on Administration and Finance and Programme Committee Dates: 18-29 April
3.	UNITAR Board of Trustees	Twenty-sixth session Dates: 11-15 April
4.	UNHCR Executive Committee (Geneva)	Thirty-ninth session Dates: 27 September-10 October

B. 1989

	Body	Meetings
1.	UNDP Governing Council (New York)	Organizational and special meetings Dates: 21-24 February Thirty-sixth session, including Budgetary and Finance Committee and Drafting Group Dates: 12-29 June
2.	UNICEF Executive Board	Executive Board, including Committee on Administration and Finance and Programme Committee Dates: 17-28 April
3.	UNITAR Board of Trustees	Twenty-seventh session Dates: 3-7 April
4.	UNHCR Executive Committee (Geneva)	Fortieth session Dates: 26 September-10 October

C. 1990

Body	Meetings
1. UNDP Governing Council (New York and Geneva)	Organizational and special meetings Dates: 20-23 February Thirty-seventh session, including Budgetary and Finance Committee and Drafting Group Dates: 28 May-22 June
2. UNICEF Executive Board	Executive Board, including Committee on Administration and Finance and Programme Committee Dates: 17-28 April
3. UNITAR Board of Trustees	Twenty-eighth session Dates: 2-6 April
4. UNHCR Executive Committee (Geneva)	Forty-first session Dates: 25 September-9 October

5. All four bodies are entitled to full interpretation services (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) for their plenary meetings. The UNDP Governing Council, the UNICEF Executive Board and the UNHCR Executive Committee receive summary records in English, French and Spanish. The General Assembly, in resolution 44/196 B of 21 December 1989, noted the decision taken by the Board of Trustees of UNITAR in 1987 to dispense with summary records. The documents of the Board of Trustees appear in English and French only. Part of the UNDP and UNICEF sessions are devoted to meetings other than plenary, and these meetings do not receive summary records.

6. In addition, the four bodies hold a number of informal meetings throughout the year, most often serviced on an "as available" basis. The Executive Board of UNICEF holds an organizational session, as well as informal pre-Board meetings. The Working Group of the Committee of the Whole of UNDP meets in accordance with its decision 81/37, according to which conference services are provided from within existing resources. The UNDP Standing Committee for Programme Matters, established by Governing Council decision 91/2, met for the first time from 6 to 10 May 1991.

7. The conference-servicing resources made available to each of the four organs and their subsidiary and related bodies between 1988 and 1990 were as shown below.

A. 1988

Name of body	Number of meetings with interpretation	Number of meetings with summary records	Sessional documentation		
			Thousands of words of translation	Thousands of words of typing	Number of page impressions
1. UNDP (Governing Council and other UNDP meetings)	132	36	3 448	6 670	14 918 914
2. UNICEF (Executive Board, Programme Committee and other UNICEF meetings)	38	10	2 933	5 507	9 615 954
3. UNITAR (Board of Trustees and other UNITAR meetings)	25	-	18	122	45 360
4. UNHCR (Executive Committee)	29	12	1 050.8	3 622.1	4 100 410

B. 1989

Name of body	Number of meetings with interpretation	Number of meetings with summary records	Sessional documentation: Thousands of words of translation	Sessional documentation: Thousands of words of typing	Sessional documentation: Number of page impressions
1. UNDP (Governing Council and other UNDP meetings)	130	39	4 133	7 859	18 415 255
2. UNICEF (Executive Board, Programme Committee and other UNICEF meetings)	43	12	2 977	5 018	9 937 325
3. UNITAR (Board of Trustees and other UNITAR meetings)	18	-	23	49	29 584
4. UNHCR (Executive Committee)	68	11	1 053.5	3 647.7	3 976 445

C. 1990

Name of body	Number of meetings with interpretation	Number of meetings with summary records	Sessional documentation: Thousands of words of translation	Sessional documentation: Thousands of words of typing	Sessional documentation: Number of page impressions
1. UNDP (Governing Council and other UNDP meetings)	115	38	3 074	5 984	17 356 449
2. UNICEF (Executive Board, Programme Committee and other UNICEF meetings)	34 a/	11	3 126	5 241	10 808 021
3. UNITAR (Board of Trustees and other UNITAR meetings	38	-	39	91	51 245
4. UNHCR (Executive Committee)	18	13	1 174.7	3 540.9	4 578 425

a/ Meetings in connection with the World Summit for Children were serviced on a reimbursable basis and as such are not included.

8. As is evident from the above-presented statistics, the meeting and documentation needs of UNDP and UNICEF represent a significant amount of the workload of the Department of Conference Services. The scheduling of these bodies therefore has a large impact on the meetings programme in effect during its sessions. By paragraph 4 (a) of section I of resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985, the regular sessions of the Governing Council of UNDP shall be held alternately at United Nations Headquarters and at the United Nations Office at Geneva. In paragraph 5 (c) of the annex to resolution 45/264, the General Assembly stipulates that the Economic and Social Council shall hold one substantive session of four to five weeks to take place in alternate years in New York and Geneva between May and July.

9. In view of the workload generated by UNDP and the Economic and Social Council, it is technically advisable to avoid holding the regular sessions of UNDP and the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council at the same duty station in the same year. Further, all of the pre-session documentation for UNDP, UNICEF and the Economic and Social Council is processed at New York. Therefore, in order to ensure the availability of documentation for UNDP and UNICEF, and taking into account the documentation needs of the spring period, it is necessary to allow five weeks between the start of UNDP and that of UNICEF.

10. All of the above factors have led to a scheduling pattern whereby UNICEF meets from the last week of April to the first week of May, UNDP meets during the month of June and the Economic and Social Council meets from the last week of June to the end of July.